

General Terms and Definitions

Commercial Measuring Device	A device used to measure the amount of a commodity for the purpose of completing a monetary transaction. Examples would include: scales, gas pumps, water meters, electric meters, or taxi meters.
Measurement Standard	A “measurement standard” is a “physical” object or system that contains a physical quantity and serves as the basis for measurement of that quantity.
Metrology	Metrology is the science of measurement.
NIST	NIST is the National Institute of Standards and Technology , the national laboratory for the United States. NIST maintains the national standards traceable to the International System of Units (SI).
Primary Standards	Primary standards are the highest accuracy level standards maintained by a metrology laboratory.
Service Agency	A service agency is a business that repairs commercial weighing and measuring devices.
Traceability	<p>Traceability is the property of the result of a measurement or the value of a standard whereby it can be related to stated references, usually national or international standards, through an unbroken chain of comparisons all having stated uncertainties.</p> <p>This chain of comparisons, calibrations, tests, and other terms that imply a measurement involves increasing levels of accuracy for each measurement in the hierarchy reaching or traceable to the highest accuracy level or measurement origin. This measurement origin is normally standards and procedures maintained at the National Institute of Standards and Technology.</p>